Thunderbolt Blast

ARMOR SERGEANTS MAJOR

US Army Armor School and the Office Chief of Armor would like to congratulate the 25 19Zs selected to attend the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy class 73. Your commitment and dedication to service will ensure that future Armor organizations are ready to fight and win on any battlefield.

FUTURE ARMOR OFFICERS

US Army Armor School would like to welcome the 441 year group 2022 cadets who branched Armor. They are made up of 297 basic branch and 144 branch detail cadets. They will attend ABOLC at Fort Benning upon their gradation from West Point and ROTC.

DIGITAL JOBS BOOK

The Office Chief of Armor along with CAC-T are implementing a digital job book for CMF 19 Soldiers that would track the progression of platform skills associated with perspective gunneries, crew tasks, and will follow the Soldier throughout his/her career.

Digital Jobs Book will populate information from existing digital programs, such as iPERMS and Project Athena. Project Athena directs efforts to assessment and improvement with standardized assessments and feedback from results worksheets that inform a soldier of their skill strengths and weaknesses. Learning resources are generated with the results worksheets and are online learning platforms, allowing for access at any time. The feedback reports assist soldiers in gaining self-awareness, addressing areas for improvement, and finding ways to apply strengths (Athena).

During the above process, the Armor branch will identify FORSCOM and MCOE units as pilots for the Digital Jobs book, with the primary focus being testing the initial version and gathering feedback. Pilots will target a start date of May 2023.

CHIEF OF ARMOR COMMENTS

Armor and Cavalry Leaders – I trust you all had a wonderful holiday season and stayed COVID free! I am writing to you from Camp Atterbury, IN, where I am currently the TF CAIN Commander in charge of helping our nation find homes for roughly 7,000 Afghan refugees. In addition to this important mission, USAARMS is still very busy, and there are many new updates to share.

This past December, Armor Branch concluded another successful year of recruiting West Point and ROTC cadets. This year, we increased the number of women and minorities recruited, and our branch still remains ahead of other combat arms branches in this regard. Our overall West Point recruitment numbers also increased. While our ROTC numbers remained roughly the same, we saw an increase in branch detail assignments and a decrease in basic branch assignments. We are still awaiting further analysis on this last point, but overall, I am very happy and excited to see our branch post another successful year of recruiting tomorrow's officers.

Throughout the fall of 2021, ACM-ABCT, the Maneuver Battle Lab and USAARMS HQ Initiatives Group conducted analysis for the Combined Arms Center through tabletop exercises to examine various potential organizational and materiel changes to armor brigades. As the Army continues to move towards the Division as the unit of action, we know that changes to the current modular brigade combat team will come. These tabletop exercises have provided a baseline understanding for how new technology will impact the formations of tomorrow. As we advance, ACM-ABCT and the MBL will conduct additional SIMEX testing for this formation, and I will

TRAINING SIMULATIONS INNOVATION
(194TH ARMORED BRIGADE)

This quarter the 194th Armored Brigade focused on enhancing the training and training systems for the One Station Unit Training Soldiers in our charge.

Within the 19K Tanker Program of Instruction, the Brigade added the Common Driver Trainer Virtual Product Line Tank Variant. This upgraded training simulation platform enables the Companies of 1-81 Armor Battalion to configure the driver simulator to all M1 Tank platform variants in the Army's arsenal. This gives us the flexibility to tailor training to the individual Soldier based on their unit of assignment and the tank platform of that unit thus saving the Army money up-front and potential re-training for the receiving unit.

The 19D Cavalry Scouts incorporated the Reconfigurable Vehicle Tactical Trainer into their POI. This simulation platform gives the Cavalry Scout Tranee vital repetitions and exposure to mounted cavalry reconnaissance operations. The aim is to develop enhanced situational awareness and hone important reconnaissance and security tasks in a configurable tactical simulation. The RVTT has the added benefit of giving the Trainees further hands on reinforcement of their platform-mounted weapons systems and sensors.

The Common Driver Trainer and the Reconfigurable Vehicle Tactical Trainer are just two of the many training simulations that the 194th AR BDE employs to produce more lethal, tactically, and technically proficient Tankers and Cavalry Scouts.

keep you updated as we learn more.

Finally, the 19C resourcing document is through and approved by TOMA and TRADOC G8 and is currently with TRADOC G1. We anticipate that this document will go to HQDA for decision soon. A lot of great work by our team and all involved in this process – thank you for your hard work and dedication to all our endeavors!

TREAT 'EM ROUGH!

BG Thomas Feltey, U.S. Army
53rd Chief of Armor

DOCTRINE

MCOE's Directorate of Training and Doctrine (DOTD), Doctrine and Collective Training Division (DCTD) continues to prepare multiple publications for Army-wide implementation, or review, by the maneuver force during this past quarter.

The ABCT Doctrine Branch will look to send the Initial Draft of ATP 3-90.1, *Armor and Mechanized Infantry Company Team*, out to the force for Initial Draft staffing in 2nd QTR FY22. The Cavalry Doctrine Branch continues their final revisions on FM 3-98, *Reconnaissance and Security Operations*, we anticipate publication in late 2nd QTR FY22. Additionally, the Cavalry Doctrine Branch will distribute ATP 3-20.97, *Cavalry Troop*, for Initial Draft staffing out to the force in late 2nd QTR FY22 / early 3rd QTR FY22.

DCTD remains dedicated to updating the force via the Center for Army Lessons Learned (CALL) newsletter, the Thunderbolt Chapter of United States Cavalry and Armor Association Facebook page and our Twitter page (@MastersManeuver). For questions or concerns, please contact the Doctrine and Collective Training Division at usarmy.benning.mcoe.mbx.doctrine@army.mil or through our Masters of Maneuver Twitter page.

LETHALITY BRIGADE
(316TH CAVALRY BRIGADE)

316th Cavalry Brigade: Below we have listed out the Formal, out of cycle TRAP requests for our Programs of Instruction. Organizations will use the Formal/Out-Of-Cycle TRAP Request Form to submit the following requirements:
- · Formal TRAP Request (For programming/Army funded)
- · Out of Cycle TRAP (New Requirement/Unit Funded)
- · Assign available MTT
- · Un-assign MTT and make available to another organization
- · Non-conduct a programmed MTT, return quotas to holding class. If a TRAP 030, make available
- · Quota swap
- · Quota Increase / Decrease
- · Change dates of a programmed MTT
- · Change location/UIC/POC of an assigned MTT
- · Schedule Class using Programmed Quotas

Out of Cycle TRAP (New Requirement/Unit Funded) MTT requests that are not part of programmed requirements through the Structure and Manning Decision Review (SMDR) process, require the requesting unit to fund all expenses related to the requested training. Requests must be submitted through the requiring activities chain of command using the Formal/Out-Of-Cycle TRAP Request Form, through DA3-5-7 and TRADOC. Once approved the requirement will be scheduled. For un-programmed "in year" requirements requesting activities must ensure their request answers the below

questions.

     a. Explanation as to why this training requirement was not identified earlier and placed in a formal TRAP.
     b. What is the "critical" and "immediate" need of the requesting command or agency to meet an extraordinary mission requirement?
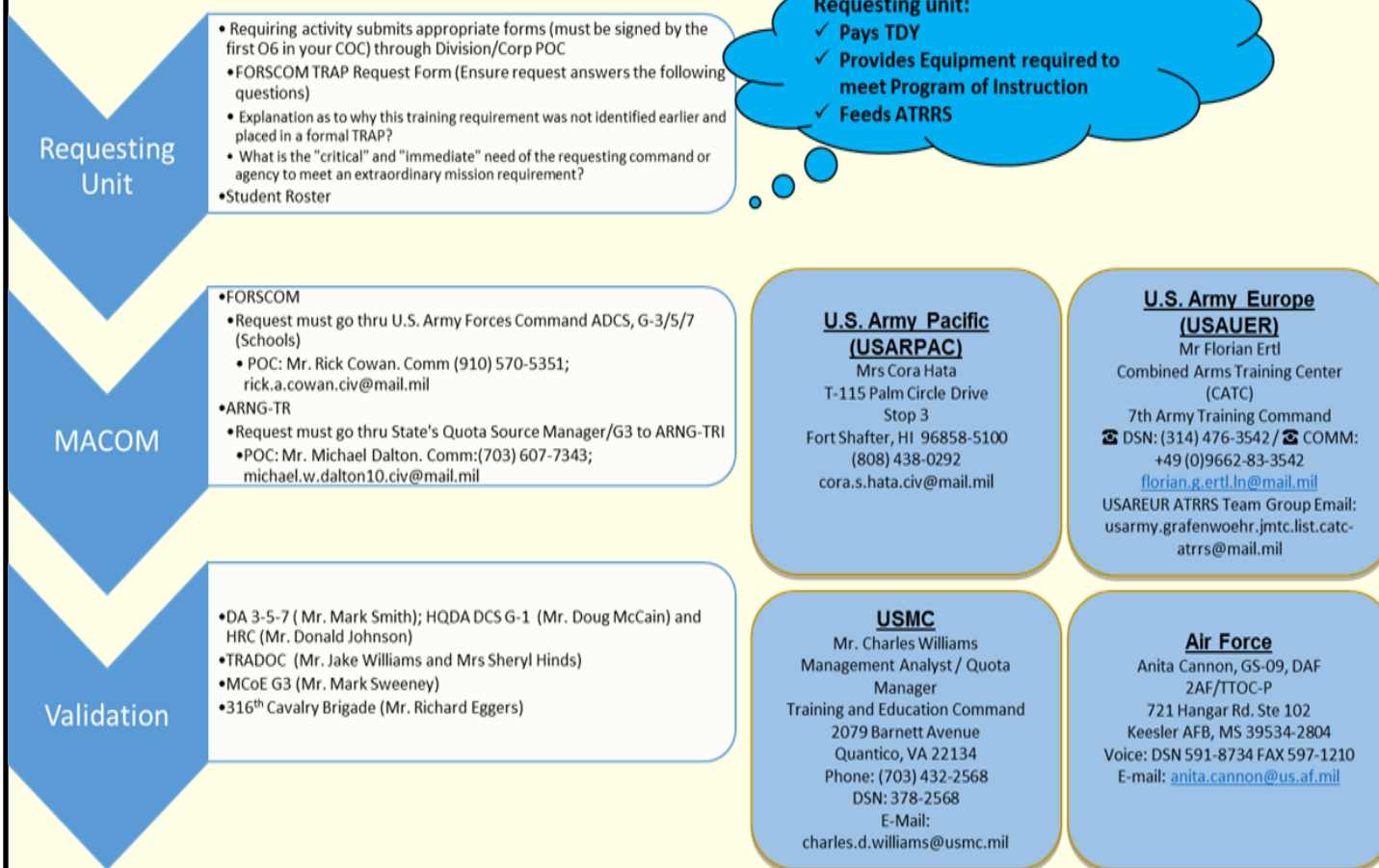
Units are not authorized to schedule MTTs directly with the schools. TRADOC schools will only schedule un-programmed MTTs received in a documented TRAP request approved by HQDA. Commands are responsible to fund their un-programmed MTTs. Units are responsible for funding Out of Cycle TRAP approved MTTs and any additional costs as a result of increased program quotas.

Unit/Installation/MSE training managers will contact TRADOC schools to determine resource requirements and discuss specific training needs for conducting the MTT. TRADOC schools will not take any action to accept or schedule an MTT based on this coordination. Units are responsible for initiating with TRADOC schools. Unit/Installation/MSEs will ensure that Soldiers meet course prerequisites and have no issues that may interfere with their attendance. Soldiers will be exempted from all unit activities while enrolled in school. Chain-of-command visits to observe training should be limited. Visits are not permitted during testing. All unit-provided required resources must be coordinated prior to the site survey time. Unresolved issues between the unit and the school will be forwarded to the ACOM/ASCC G3 for resolution and a copy to the training command MTT cell.

Offline TRAP - MTT Request Process

MTTs are processed/allocated on a first come basis. MTT requests that are not part of programmed requirements through the Structure and Manning Decision Review (SMDR) process, require the requesting unit to fund all expenses related to the requested training.
In order to meet the requiring activities intent, the requesting organization will need to receive approval through their chain of command, through DA3-5-7 and TRADOC.

Requesting Unit

- Requiring activity submits appropriate forms (must be signed by the first O6 in your COC) through Division/Corp POC
- FORSCOM TRAP Request Form (Ensure request answers the following questions)
- Explanation as to why this training requirement was not identified earlier and placed in a formal TRAP?
- What is the "critical" and "immediate" need of the requesting command or agency to meet an extraordinary mission requirement?
- Student Roster

Requesting unit:
- ✓ Pays TDY
- ✓ Provides Equipment required to meet Program of Instruction
- ✓ Feeds ATRRS

MACOM

- FORSCOM
- Request must go thru U.S. Army Forces Command ADCS, G-3/5/7 (Schools)
- POC: Mr. Rick Cowan. Comm (910) 570-5351; rick.a.cowan.civ@mail.mil
- ARNG-TR
- Request must go thru State's Quota Source Manager/G3 to ARNG-TRI
  - POC: Mr. Michael Dalton. Comm:(703) 607-7343; michael.w.dalton10.civ@mail.mil

U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC)
Mrs Cora Hata
T-115 Palm Circle Drive
Stop 3
Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5100
(808) 438-0292
cora.s.hata.civ@mail.mil

U.S. Army Europe (USAUER)
Mr Florian Ertl
Combined Arms Training Center (CATC)
7th Army Training Command
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florian.g.ertl.ln@mail.mil
USAREUR ATRRS Team Group Email:
usarmy.grafenwoehr.jmtc.list.catc-atrrs@mail.mil

Validation

- DA 3-5-7 (Mr. Mark Smith); HQDA DCS G-1 (Mr. Doug McCain) and HRC (Mr. Donald Johnson)
- TRADOC (Mr. Jake Williams and Mrs Sheryl Hinds)
- MCoE G3 (Mr. Mark Sweeney)
- 316th Cavalry Brigade (Mr. Richard Eggers)

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HQ U.S. Army Armor School			
	Chief of Armor	(706) 545-2029	BG Thomas Feltey
	Armor CSM	(706) 545-8169	CSM LeVares Jackson
	Deputy Commandant	(706) 545-8334	COL Sean Barnes
	Armor Historian	(706) 626-1491	Dr. Robert Cameron
	OCOA Director	(706) 545-1352	Mr. George DeSario
	OCOA SGM	(706) 545-7725	SGM Chris Carey
	OCOA (Excellence in Armor, Armor and Cavalry Leadership Award etc…)	(706) 626-TANK (8265)	usarmy.benning.mco.mbx.armor-ocoa@army.mil
	ARMOR Magazine	(706) 545-2698	usarmy.benning.tradoc.mbx.armor-magazine@army.mil

194th AR BDE			
	COL Jason Rosenstrauch CSM Jon Derek Noyes		
	30th AG (REC)	LTC Frederick Babauta	CSM Antoinette Green
	1-81 AR	LTC Nathaniel Davis	CSM Richard Meeker
	2-15 CAV	LTC Ricarlos Caldwell	CSM Steven Smerer
	5-15 CAV	LTC David Culver	CSM Larry Curry

316th CAV BDE			
	COL Peter Glass CSM Carvet Tate		
	1-16 CAV	LTC Dan Snow	CSM Henry Pantoja
	1-29 IN	LTC Nathan Williams	CSM Jeffery Grothause
	3-16 CAV	LTC Daniel Cannon	CSM Noah Pugh
	MATA	LTC Tim Palmer	MSG Aaron Marn

199th IN BDE			
	COL Victor Satterlund CSM Roy Young		
	2-16 CAV	LTC Chris Kane	CSM Randal Edmondson

Other Agencies

ACM ABCT & RECON	COL Jason Kidder	ACM IBCT	COL Ryan Morgan	ACM SBCT	COL Sam Edwards
	(706) 626-2444		(706) 545-3911		(706) 545-7751
ACM SFAB	LTC Melvin Jackson	Doctrine	Mr. David Guthrie	MRD	Mr. John Miller
	(913) 684-8843		(706) 545-7114		(706) 545-8355

ARMOR SCHOOL LINKS

MCoE: https://www.benning.army.mil
Armor School: https://www.benning.army.mil/armor/

- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/USAARMS
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/USAARMS

ARMOR Magazine: http://www.benning.army.mil/armor/eARMOR

- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pages/ARMOR-magazine/122557661278366?ref=hl
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/ARMORMagazine
- Blog: http://www.earmorcontent.com/blog

Armor Branch (HRC) Websites:

- Officer: https://www.hrc.army.mil/content/Officer%20Personnel%20Management%20Directorate
- Enlisted: https://www.hrc.army.mil/content/Enlisted%20Personnel%20Management%20Directorate%20(EPMD)

MGCC Sabot: https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-350788
BMG Sabot: https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-486004
Weapons and Gunnery (MAIN PAGE): https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/weapons-and-gunnery
Charlie Niner Two: https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/charlie-niner-two
Vehicle Crew Evaluators: https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/vehicle-crew-evaluator
Gunnery SOPS: https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/weapons-and-gunnery-standard-operating-procedures-sop
Individual Weapons: https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/individual-weapons
Sabot Academy: https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/sabot-academy